Course Objective

Sociological inquiries operate at macro and micro levels. At the macro level sociologists study "institutions of advanced or industrialized societies and ... the conditions of transformation of these institutions" (Giddens, 1992:11). At the micro level, the focus is, primarily, with more immediate and intense levels of everyday interactions (Boden, 1986).

The principal objective of this course is to expose students to the theoretical, methodological and substantive issues that have engaged both levels of inquiry since the latter half of the 19th Century. Since this is an introductory course my approach will be panoramic: some depth will be sacrificed for comprehensiveness.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course students are expected to:
1. define and explain basic concepts in sociology;
2. differentiate among competing theoretical perspectives;
3. explore complementary social research methods and understand their strengths and limitations;
4. explain the effects of factors such as migration technology and social conflict on social change;
5. recognize the reciprocal relationships between the Individual and society.

Course Format

The first 50 minutes of each class will be spent on straight lectures. The remaining 25 will be spent on questions and/or discussion. The reason for this format is to ensure that students are sufficiently exposed to the topic of day before
they ask questions. When appropriate and possible, films and/or slides will be used to buttress class lectures. I will also invite some guest lecturers to share with us some of their expertise on specific social issues.

**Course Requirement**

Your final grade for this course will be based on the following.

First Examination.......................................................................................................................20%
Second Examination..................................................................................................................20%
Third Examination....................................................................................................................20%
Final Examination...................................................................................................................20%
Civic participation/Report.........................................................................................................5%
Sociological Analysis of State of the Union Address...................................................5%
Inequality Table Interpretation...............................................................................................10%
**Total**......................................................................................................................................100%

All four exams will take the form a combination of essay and multiple choice questions. Exams must be taken at the scheduled times and place. Make-up exams are allowed only for validly supported medical and/or personal emergencies. The instructor reserves the right to determine the merits of each request for a make-up examination. Extra credit is not allowed.

**Class Attendance**

Class attendance is important and required. There is, however, a maximum of three penalty-free absences allowed for personal/family emergencies. Every other non-officially excused absence will be penalized with a three percentage-point deduction from final grade. Regardless of the reason(s) for one’s absence, students are personally responsible for recovering materials taught during their absence from class. It is recommended, therefore that students develop responsible, professional relationships with two or more other students for class lecture notes taken on the day(s) that they are absent.

**Students with Disabilities**

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. Please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, at 825-5816 for further instruction and/or guidance.

**Academic Advising**

The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. Additionally, students are encouraged to speak to the instructor before dropping the class.
Course Outline
Jan. 22-Feb. 5 An Introduction to "Introduction To Sociology"
   What is Sociology? Chap. 1
   Theoretical Perspectives in Sociology Chap. 1
   Research Methods in Sociology Chap. 2

Feb. 10 First Exam.

Feb. 12-Mar. 5 Culture Chap. 3
   Society Chap. 4
   Socialization Chap. 5

Mar. 17 Second Exam

Mar. 19-Apr. 2 Social Structure and organizations Chap. 6 & 7
   Deviance Chap. 8
   Social Stratification - Chap. 10
   Social Class in the United States Chap. 11

Apr. 7 Third Exam

Apr. 9-May 5 Social Stratification:
   Gender/Sex Stratification - Chap. 13
   Race/Ethnicity Stratification Chap. 14
   Social Institutions:
   Family Institution Chap. 18
   Educational Institution Chap. 20
   Social Change Chap. 24

May 12 Final Exam
** This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor to accommodate students' and/or instructional needs.